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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
HIDETSUGU GOTO : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION  
SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLICATION :  
(BASED ON PCT/JP03/15542)  
FILED: HEREWITH :  
FOR: GENE IMPROVING :  
TEMPERATURE-TOLERANCE OF  
ACETIC ACID BACTERIUM,  
ACETIC ACID BACTERIUM BRED  
USING THE GENE AND PROCESS  
FOR PRODUCING VINEGAR  
USING THE ACETIC ACID  
BACTERIUM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.

A clean copy of the **Replacement Abstract** is attached at the end of this paper.